



# ALUMNI

FALL 1967

# BULLETIN

Vol. V

MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

No. 1

David Upton, Class of '64, Serves as Viet Nam "Combat Optometrist"



HONORARY DEGREES were awarded to two prominent Massachusetts men in ceremonies at the June commencement exercises of the college. Honorable John F. X. Davorin, Speaker of the House, left, and Dr. Leon Tauherhaus, Deputy Commissioner of Health, were conferred the degrees by Dean Hyman Kamens.

## College Burglarized Twice; New Safety Measures Set

Malicious vandalism struck M.C.O. on two week ends in October. The Secretaries' office, Registrar's and Dean's offices suffered extensive damage with everything turned upside down, and records and papers strewn about. Fortunately the Library and Clinic were untouched. Expensive cameras including a microscopic camera and other expensive instruments are missing. An Electronic Tonometer was ripped apart. Evidently the burglars were looking for money as they ransacked these rooms as well as the fraternity rooms. Some of your Alumni Association checks are among the missing.

Unfortunately no pictures are available as the intruders took the school's Polaroid Camera. Latest word is that the police have leads and suspects are being questioned.

## Army Optometrist Becomes First To Examine Eyes on Front Lines

EDITOR'S NOTE: *The following letter was received by Dean Kamens at the college. Upon reading it, the Dean felt it would be of interest to each and every alumni. Therefore with his clearance, the letter is reprinted here in full:*

"I am writing to you in request of information pertaining to my eligibility for writing my O.D. thesis. If I remember correctly there existed a time limit in which the thesis had to be completed. Having graduated in June '64, attended the summer program, practiced from October '64 to August '66, and then being drafted into the U.S. Army on 15 August '66 — do I still qualify for writing my O.D. thesis?

I am presently beginning my third month of a twelve month tour in South Vietnam. This experience I'm gaining over here is most rewarding and it is this experience I wish to write in a thesis.

I feel I have definitely come up with an excellent subject and something that would be profitable and enlightening to other optometrists. The basic subject is that of "Combat Optometry," for the lack of a better description at the present time. This does sound somewhat dramatic, but let me relate how this evolved.

I am a member of the 221st Medical Dispensary, as an optometrist, supporting the support troops of the 101st Airborne Division, 1st Brigade, here in Phan Rang. The majority of the 1st Brigade are infantry troops in the forward area of Duc Pho. I was confronted by the commanding officer of the 326th Medical Company, which is organic to the 1st Brigade and provides medical treatment for their troops in Duc Pho, with the following problem. The only means of providing eye care to their troops was to evacuate them, which meant an average of six to eight days for each man to be lost to his unit. The number evacuated for eye care averaged twenty-five to thirty per month.

As there are few troops of the 1st Brigade in Phan Rang, it was decided I could easily handle both areas by rotating between Duc Pho and Phan Rang as the need arose. To date, I have completed three trips to Duc Pho, and one to Chu Lai. As the

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## Tonometry Research Report Delayed by Unexpected Complications

In an attempt to publish a copy of the Tonometer Evaluation Study, the editors of the Bulletin contacted Dr. John Asarkof, Chairman.

Instead of a report, Dr. Asarkof submitted the following comment:

The Tonometry Committee in charge of evaluating the Durham, Mackay Marg and Tonair tonometers fully realize that some time has elapsed since we first started this study and that the practicing optometrists are impatiently awaiting our report. However, many unexpected problems were encountered which delayed us considerably.

Holding the clinics at different locations is time consuming. Not only does equipment have to be transported and set up, but arrangements for adequate places to hold these clinics and publicity must be considered.

One of the instruments being evaluated, we were informed, after completing the testing with this instrument, was not functioning properly. In order to avoid criticism, we repeated this part of the study with an instrument we were assured was accurate.

Upon completion of the clinical work, we decided to have the data analyzed by an unbiased individual whose opinion could not be questioned. Vacations and many meetings further delayed processing of the data. The analysis of the data has finally been obtained and the final summary is ready.

To have this material be meaningful to the average practitioner necessitates presenting the same in graph or table form. Finally, an article will be written containing all of this material. This, we expect, will be completed within the next month.

Signed

John E. Asarkof, O.D.  
Chairman, Tonometry Committee

## Polaroid Corp. Provides Unique Fall Educational Meeting for Alumni

Our fall meeting of the Alumni Association was held October 25, 1967 at the Pillar House in Newton, Mass. We were most fortunate in having John J. McCann, of the Vision Research Department of the Polaroid Corporation speak to us on "The Retinex Theory of Color Vision." This is the product of ten years research at Polaroid Corporation by Edwin Land and his associates.

The theory is an attempt to unify the many aspects of color vision into one comprehensive statement. The topic of discussion was the basic tenets of Retinex Theory, the fundamental difference between Retinex Theory, and the Classical Approach; and some of the many experiments that support Retinex Theory.

Dinner was served to the group first. The benefit of adequate parking, and a free fellowship hour, all helped to make it a night to remember for the Massachusetts College of Optometry Alumni.



**THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARD** was presented to Robert M. Gold during commencement exercises of the class of 1967 in June. Here, Dr. Alfred Hanson, President of the Alumni Association, left, presents the citation to Dr. Gold. The recipient of this award automatically becomes a member of the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association.

## Class of 1967 to Practice in Armed Forces, Public Health and Industry

It is now a few months after graduation and the Class of '67 is slowly departing from Boston. Clinical obligations have been fulfilled and it's time to enter into our chosen profession.

Seven of our newest O.D.'s (Paul Adrien, Art Baker, Neill Cowles, Wes Nichols, Mike Newman, Jay Rosen and Al Kaplan) are off into the "Wild Blue Yonder" in their Air Force blue. Only one (Bill Smith) chose the Navy. Marv Pachman is also serving his country as a member of the Public Health Service. The rest of the boys have returned home. For some, like Oscar Reynosa, its a long, long trip back to Guatemala; for others like Freddy Slater and Arnie Vogel, it is no further than the M.T.A.

Dave Sheinkopf has decided to work for industry and will be starting for Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester, N.Y., in November.

Bill Smith, RFD No. 1, Alstead, N.H. is the class chairman in charge of addresses and wants the class of '67 to keep him posted on your whereabouts. He will have a new class directory printed and mailed to you each year. I, too, would like to hear from as many of you as possible. Let me know where you are and what you are doing — I'm sure the rest of the class would be interested also.

**FACTS ABOUT THE CLASS OF '67**  
Class of '67 has tallest known O.D. — Al Kaplan.  
Class of '67 has only O.D. in Guatemala.  
8 grads are the sons of O.D.'s.

Tom Clark is licensed to practice Optometry in four states.

Twelve members of the Class of '67 hold degrees from other schools in addition to M.C.O..

Signed Robert Gold

## May I Interrupt?

I hate to disrupt the dreams of you Red Sox fans but while you're waiting for April and another season perhaps you might be interested in some Alumni matters.

The past year the membership enjoyed a healthy increase. This year the Alumni goal is to double last year's enrollment. With a little effort by the class agents, this goal can easily be realized. More on the membership drive and what the class agents can do will be forthcoming.

Up to date class lists will be sent to all class agents before the end of the year. Each class agent will be personally contacted by this writer before the end of December to determine his willingness to continue to serve in the capacity of class agent.

By the first of the year, the Alumni Questionnaire will again be circulated. We hope the response will be as good or better than before. With improved class lists a greater mailing should be possible.

The class agents will this year be requested to contact the members of their class for the purpose of general information (correct address etc.) gathering and organization.

It is not too early to be looking ahead to March and the Convention. The 25th Anniversary Class this year will be the class of 1943. Other five year classes will also be honored. Alumni agents of the above mentioned classes will be sent information concerning organization of the various classes for the Alumni Banquet. Last year many Alumni without reservations were turned away. Don't go hungry this year. Personally I have never missed a meal — and I look it.

JEC

## Here 'n' There

The alumni secretary would like information on the following alumni. If the address and/or home towns are known, please notify Dr. Morris Berman:

**Dr. Calvin Pisetsky '64**

**Dr. Miehel Seheurer '64**

**Morton Salzinger — New York**

**Albert Biscornet — N.H.**

**Albert Wentzell — Mass.**

**Edward Kenney '64**

## Something To Say?

The Alumni Bulletin is beginning a "Letters to the Editors" column in the next issue. If you feel you have something interesting to say to the membership please write. Constructive criticism is welcome. The name of the sender will be withheld if requested but letters will not be published if unsigned. Please keep length to fifty words or less. Write to:

**DR. J. E. CALLINAN**  
24 Union Avenue  
Framingham, Mass.

## Combat Optometrist

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forward base camp moves from place to place — I follow it. In the four trips I have examined 149 patients, which represents a large number of saved man hours.

Approximately every other week I put on my camouflaged steel pot, 45 automatic and grab my duffle bag which contains a trial lens set with trial frame, diagnostic instruments, cardboard distant and near visual acuity charts, and frames for fitting. This makes a compact, easily carried, complete outfit for performing field eye examinations. I perform the examinations in sand bagged tents, large bunkers or wherever I can. I've not been in any direct action but darn close to it. The risk involved is more than that of being in Cam Ranh Bay or Phan Rang, but not like that of D.M.Z. either.

Regardless, it has proven extremely beneficial. In fact I've been asked to write a synopsis of the "Combat Optometry" for the U.S.A.R.V. (United States Army Republic of Vietnam) Surgeon's Bulletin. To the knowledge of St. Col. Wells, N.C., my battalion C.O., and to a number of other interested officers, this is a first for optometry and the Army.

As you can tell, I am quite excited about it and as a year passes I'm sure valid statistics and other valuable information pertaining to this type of optometry can be analyzed and entered into a good thesis.

Before terminating this letter let me apologize for the roughness in which I have written. I am trying to write on the edge of my cot, in a tent, with poor illumination, and the insects are driving me wild.

Naturally, if I have gone too long and time has expired in which I can write my thesis without returning for post-graduate work, I will still want to submit a paper on this work I've been doing.

Please inform me as to your decision and any particulars relating to a thesis at your earliest convenience."

Sincerely,

Signed

David H. Upton

## College Undergraduates Solicit Alumni Advice and Support

The task of stimulating and supporting school activities falls to the Student Council and for these aims many early year meetings have been held.

The elected officers are, Robert M. Condon, President; Henry Baroyan, Vice-President; Frank Fox, Secretary; Michael Roy, Treasurer.

Despite the limited amount of available free time, the Student Council has set forth an ambitious schedule which includes subsidizing the two school fraternities, increasing the number of forum speakers (for which we will be calling on the Alumni Association) and providing for intermural athletic activities.

The Student Council requests and would appreciate suggestions and information from the Alumni concerning the College in retrospect.

## PRESIDENT'S POTPOURRI

By Alfred D. Hanson, O.D.

This is the longest time yet between Bulletins, and I honestly miss the opportunity for a chance to talk to you. This is our college, and we would like to hear from any of you — at any time.

Since our last meeting on these pages, our college has graduated forty-two, wonderful, fine, and capable young optometrists.

As your president, I had the privilege of addressing the candidates at the commencement exercises. I attempted to point out what a distinguished group they were joining; and how we in the Alumni have need to keep in contact with one another, and with our college.

The Annual Alumni Association Award for the most outstanding scholastic and extra-curricular record was awarded to Robert M. Gold. This automatically makes him a member of our Alumni Association Board of Directors and Advisors. He joins a highly select group of which our association can be justly proud. Fortunately, I can report to you that he has joined our college faculty, and is helping in our clinic at Kenmore Square.

Your officers and board of directors, like you, have enjoyed the summer and are now ready to compel our association to greater heights.

Our first vice-president, Al Lamont is editor of the Bulletin. This is a tremendous job. He wishes more of you were willing to let others share your knowledge, and would also send any pertinent news about other members. All of us should give him many, many thanks for this time-consuming and difficult job. Please help him by sending in any, and

all, information you may have about any of our members.

It is with deep regret that I have to inform you of the list of names of the following alumni who have died since our last Bulletin. Every one will be deeply missed: Doctors Momnie, Hoffman, Cerruti, and Messenger.

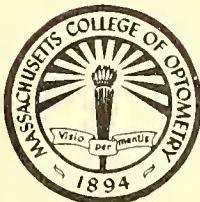
You will soon receive a letter from the college asking for your continued support of the Building Fund. Please remember each of us benefit as our college advances. Our college is in excellent hands and their only interest is the betterment of our profession. Please give generously to your own profession; and remember it is completely tax-deductible.

Congratulations to two of our alumni to the Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts College of Optometry. Dr. Joseph Montimey, and Dr. G. Burtt Holmes. Also, a great big wonderful congratulation to Maurice Savol of the Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts College of Optometry, to the appointment of President, of the New England Board of Education Association. Our Board of Trustees continue to grow and glow in esteem.

At our last Executive Board Meeting in September, Dr. Carroll Martus, our secretary for nearly ten years, had to resign because of health, and lack of time to continue his high efficiency. We, the association, are deeply grateful for his many years of dedicated service.

Please begin to think of our March Annual Meeting. Remember last year, an over-flowing crowd of wonderful alumni members and their wives, attended. So please make your reservation where and when we ask for it. Don't forget, it's at a new hotel. The classes honored will be 1963—1958—1953—1948—1943—1938—1933—1928—1923. Hope to see you there!

## A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year



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